



Recycling Lines

Electronic Newsletter

January 2007

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Environmental Enhancement

P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia 23218 (804) 698-4029 Fax (804) 698-4224.

DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

Please note our new P.O. Box and Zip Code .

Welcome to Recycling Lines, We hope that some of this information is helpful to you in your programs, and hope you'll help us with news from your area related recycling. Let us know by sending this information to Steve Coe at

gscoe@deq.virginia.gov.

Recycling Rate Reports - Changes to the Code of Virginia

Recycling rate reports for each solid waste management planning unit are due to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality for the previous year by April 30, 2007. All SWPU's are required to maintain a minimum of a 25% recycling rate or a minimum of a 15% recycling rate if the population density is fewer than 100 people per square mile or if the civilian unemployment rate is at least 50% greater than the state average.

SWPU's will be able to qualify for up to five percentage points to be added to their base recycling rate if the following criteria are met:

- ✓ A credit of one ton for each ton of recycling residue generated in Virginia and deposited in a landfill permitted under subsection M of § 10.1-1408.1;
- ✓ A credit of two percentage points of the minimum recycling rate mandated for the solid waste planning unit for a source reduction program that is implemented with the solid waste planning unit. The existence and operation of such a program shall be certified by the solid waste planning unit;
- ✓ A credit of one ton for each ton of any solid waste material that is reused; and
- ✓ A credit of one ton for each ton of any non-municipal solid waste material that is recycled.

For more information about updates to the Code of Virginia that pertain to the SWPU's recycling rate report and solid waste management plans, go to the Code of Virginia website at:

<http://198.246.135.1/000/src.htm>

and type in 10.1-1411 to get information about regional and local solid waste management plans or contact Steve Coe at (804) 698-4029 or gscoe@deq.virginia.gov

Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency

Check out the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to determine if you have government or personal property that is eligible for tax credits or tax deductions.

Consider hybrid vehicles, home energy efficiency improvement, production of Biodiesel/Alternative fuels, energy-efficient commercial buildings and use of energy-efficient appliances.

For more information go to the U.S. Department of Energy website at www.energy.gov/taxbreaks.htm or visit the Energy Star website at

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr_tax_credits

Did You Know?

- ✓ The Virginia Council for Litter Prevention and Recycling will hold their next meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2007 at 10:30 a.m. in the Henrico Training Center, Room at Parham and Schrader Roads, Glen Allen, VA (Richmond area). Contact Clara Mills at 540-507-7709 or cmills@spotsylvania.va.us
- ✓ The Environment Virginia Conference will be held April 10 – 12, 2007 in Lexington. Early registration ends on February 2, 2007. www.environmentva.org
- ✓ The first Energy Star home built by the Habitat for Humanity in Virginia was built in **Charles City County**. Contact Leisha G. LaRiviere, Acting Executive Director for Richmond Metropolitan Habitat for Humanity at (804) 232-7001 or info@richmondhabitat.org
- ✓ The National Recycling Coalition (NRC) has moved. Here is their updated contact information:

National Recycling Coalition
805 15th Street, NW, Suite 425
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: (202) 789-1430
Fax: (202) 789-1431

- ✓ The Foundation for Rehabilitation Equipment & Endowments (FREE) is an organization in **Roanoke** that collects medical and rehabilitation-related equipment that is no longer needed. Items are given without charge to citizens in Western Virginia who need the equipment, but cannot afford to purchase the items. Visit their website at <http://www.free-foundation.org> or call (540) 777-4929.

Updated Recycling Markets Directory Now Available

Thanks to the Virginia Recycling Association, Virginia's Manual on the Business of Recycling was first published under a grant from DEQ in 1998.

Since then, some of the recycling market information has changed. DEQ has updated the information and posted it on the web site. It can be viewed by going to DEQ's Links web site and scrolling down to it under either the "Product/Material Recycling" list or the "Business Assistance with Recycling" list. <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle/lin.html>

If you know of any businesses that should be added, please contact Sheila Barnett at (804) 698-4055 or smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov

Recycling Lines Continued

Annual Pesticide Disposal Project

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Virginia Pesticide Control Board held pesticide disposal collections throughout the Commonwealth in October and November 2006. This was an opportunity for farmers, pesticide dealers, and pesticide control firms to dispose safely of their outdated or unwanted pesticides at no cost to the participants.

Participants were required to register the items that they would be bringing to the disposal site. Unknown substances were accepted if there was less than 50 lbs as a solid or five gallons as a liquid. If the quantity was greater than that, a VDACS contractor needed to test the substance before it could be discarded.

In the fall of 2006, there were 12 collections which yielded the following pounds of pesticides collected:

Liquid Pesticides	19,936
Solid Pesticides	15,871
Bulk	48,296
Household Pesticides	1,519

The fall collection schedule for next year should be posted by the beginning of August, 2007. For more information contact Liza Fleeson at (804) 371-6561 or

liza.fleeson@vdacs.virginia.gov

Amazing Statistics from Keep America Beautiful's Great American Clean up

The Great American Clean up officially runs annually from March 1 – May 31. Every state in the nation registers pick ups as part of this event. In 2006:

- ✓ 37 million plastic bottles were diverted from the waste stream.
- ✓ More than 2.5 million scrap tires were collected.
- ✓ 38.5 million pounds of aluminum and steel recycled, an 80 percent increase over 2005's total.
- ✓ 4.8 million pounds of electronics recycled, a 32 percent increase over last year.

For more information about the Great American Clean up go to the KAB web site at www.kab.org

Recycling on the Go

Recycle on the Go is part of the EPA's Resource Conservation Challenge. It encourages public entities to make an effort to collect recyclables where large groups of people are present such as at stadiums, parks, places of mass transportation such as airports and train stations, special events and shopping centers.

The EPA's website has tools available to assist managers of public places in establishing a recycling collection or ongoing program. The EPA also has some helpful hints for working with vendors, haulers, and recycling contractors.

The EPA is promoting their Recycle on the Go program because it can do the following for jurisdictions:

- ✓ Save money – it reduces waste generation.
- ✓ Keeps public spaces cleaner
- ✓ Saves Energy and reduces pollution
- ✓ Promotes Environmental Stewardship.

For more information go to: www.epa.gov/recycleonthego/

Disclaimer: Reference in this publication to any specific business, commercial product, process or service by trade name, trademark or otherwise does not constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation or favoring by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality or any other state government agency.

Elements of a Recycling Ordinance

In the spring, localities were asked if they had recycling ordinances and 11 responded. Having a recycling ordinance in place is one way that jurisdictions can work towards increased recycling rates in their localities.

Most of the recycling ordinances used the same or similar language and had common elements. Here is a list of what they had in common. Jurisdictions that have recycling ordinances require:

- ✓ All nonresidential solid waste generators and companies that manage solid waste or recycle materials generated within the county/city are required to submit an annual report of their recycling activity to the Department of Public works.
- ✓ The Director of Public Works/County Administrator provides the form to be completed to each solid waste generator.

The report contains:

- ✓ Name of responsible person completing the report and their contact information and;
- ✓ Quantities in tons of solid waste that are recycled, or are the subject of source reduction or reuse programs.

Other important elements of the ordinances:

- ✓ Nothing of a proprietary nature needs to be revealed; however, when a person fails to report any information, the person shall specify in the annual report the nature of the information and the determination of why that such information is of a proprietary nature.
- ✓ Waste that is counted in the report is generated within the jurisdiction.

Variations:

- ✓ Arlington County targets multiple-family dwellings as well as non-residential waste generators.
- ✓ Most jurisdictions get their reports directly from the businesses. Arlington County relies on their haulers to provide them with waste reports.
- ✓ Some of the localities list penalties for persons, firms, or corporations that fail to comply with the ordinance. Penalties range from paying fines to incarceration or by losing trash/recyclable disposal privileges in the jurisdiction.

Making an ordinance work is not always easy. One Recycling Program Manager replied to our request and stated that although they have an ordinance, getting businesses to comply isn't easy as she has to follow up with multiple phone calls and faxes to get her information.

The Counties of **Arlington, Fairfax, Frederick, Prince William, Spotsylvania, York**, Cities of **Falls Church, Harrisonburg, Newport News, Norfolk**, and **Virginia Beach** submitted their recycling ordinances and it was from a compilation of their ordinances that I am able to share the common elements and the variances. If your jurisdiction has an ordinance that we haven't acknowledged, please send us your ordinance so that we can have it on file.

If your jurisdiction would like to implement a recycling ordinance, contact any of the recycling managers for the localities listed above by going to:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle/contactlist.html>

Or contact Steve Coe at (804) 698-4029 or

gscoe@deq.virginia.gov